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and  
Gold*

**'63**

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*The Blue and Gold*

1963

DEDICATED TO THE FORMER  
TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

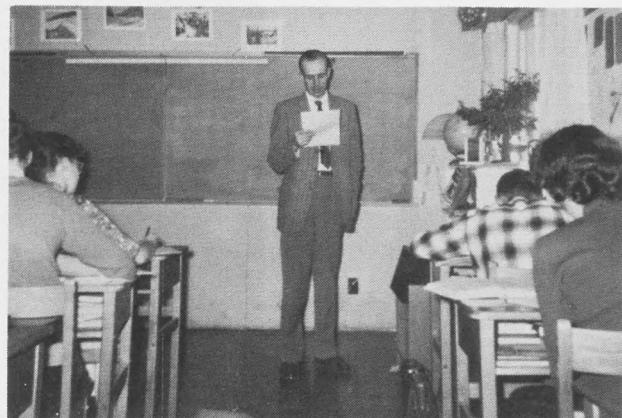


## *Blumenhof High School*

Grade 9	-----	14
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# School Calendar



August 30	School Started
September 18	Wiener roast at Doerksen's gravel pit
October 24	Speech Contest at Niverville
November 9	School Photographer
December 6-14	Christmas Exams
December 22	Christmas Social
January 25	Skating at Brandt's gravel pit
February 14	Skating at Moray
March 8	Parent's Day
March 23	"Stanley and Livingstone"
March 28	Easter Exams
March 29	"The Mountain Gal" a play at Landmark
May 25	Field Trip
June 4	Graduation





INSPECTOR K. R. JASPER

### *Inspector's Message*

To the Graduates:

I feel honored in being asked to address a message to you at one of the really important moments of life.

School leaving is a special milestone in young lives. It is like the Golden Milestone set up in the Roman Forum by Augustus: from it roads lead everywhere.

Choose carefully the road that you will follow. Consider your capabilities. Consider the requirements of the profession or trade to which you are attracted. Are your capabilities such as may enable you to travel with some distinction along the road you choose?

Don't be satisfied with the idea of "following" a profession or trade. Aim at being a leader — a contributor to life. Aim at being eminent among people who count. Make your ambition big enough to be a challenge to your powers.

Step out with courage along whatever road you choose. Step up to opportunity whenever it presents itself. Accept difficulties as chances to show your capabilities or your good judgement.

Above all, get started! Step out! Purpose demands a plan. A plan is useless unless steps are taken to develop it. A prominent man gave this advice to a youth starting his business career: "Do the wise thing if you know what it is, but anyway do something — the wisest thing you know." I agree with this advice.

We hope for high accomplishment from this year's graduates. Best wishes for your success!

Mr. A. G. Penner, Ward 3; Mr. B. S. Fast, Ward 6; Mr. Geo. T. Penner, Ward 4; Mr. J. A. Martens, Ward 5; Mr. J. J. Peters, Ward 2; Mr. J. K. Schellenberg, Sec.-Treas.; Mr. Albert Loewen, Ward 4, Chairman; Mr. J. J. Hildebrandt, Ward 1, vice-chairman.



## The Challenge from the "Field"

"Behold. I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest."

What greater challenge could I give you than that which is already given by Him who was obedient unto death, as He says, "as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." This charge goes to both graduate and undergraduate. You cannot evade it. It stares you in the face. It started to challenge you the moment you surrendered your life to Christ, and if that time has not come in your life, you have no worthwhile purpose. This charge is challenging you every day. It is a challenge which never ends until at last you will leave the field through a higher call. This is a mighty challenge — not one for the mouse but for the man — for it is not merely "against rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness . . ."

Let us realize, however, that the challenge to each one does not remain the same. The charge Christ gave never changes but the challenge does. As your knowledge increases, as through studying the Word you are further enlightened, the intensity of the challenge increases, and you become more responsible to take up the challenge. To you, undergraduates, the challenge may not change radically as you contemplate continued studies at Blumen-

hof. But do not miss it — it is there! To you, graduates, comes the challenge of decision, which is all important. You have spent eleven or twelve years now at your secular studies. Will you tithe now, and give the Lord His time with you, let's say a few years, at studying truths in the Text of Texts? Or will you continue your materialistic trend? Your hundred and twenty months of study in textbooks put up by humans who, for the most part, have little or no regard for the great challenge, have had their effect on you, whether you know it or not. Now what will you do? Will you take the course of Martha, or the better one of Mary?

"As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." The Father sent Christ into the sinful world only for one purpose. "For the Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which is lost." Why are you in this sinful world? Are you letting Christ send you or are you going your way? Seekest thou great things for thyself; seek them not."

I would like to repeat, What greater challenge is there than the challenge of Christ's charge? Take up the challenge in fuller measure, and the success, of which you can rejoice through all eternity, will follow you.

Mr. John Kornelsen

## *Yearbook Committee*



YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

Left to right: Ruth Toews, photography; Waldon Doerksen, Assistant Editor; Nettie Brandt, Editor; Arnold Doerksen, Advertising; Peter Penner, Circulation; Eleanor Plett, Typing.

## *Editorial*



Why have a yearbook? Is it only to advertise our school and to make a profit on the yearbook sales? Well, no — we hope that the pictures and articles in it will help parents and school friends to get to know our students and to learn more about our school activities. Besides this, I know that to many students the yearbook will be a real treasure and a souvenir of their high school days.

But to the students of our high school having a yearbook has meant more than this. All of us — the teachers, the student body, and yearbook committee — have united for a common cause — to make a yearbook that will truly picture our school and its students, and that will be a treasure to the students. Each one was asked to contribute in some small way. We, as the yearbook committee, have learned to work together and to know each other better. Being able and willing to work with others, to take responsibility, and to do our part are valuable character traits. Learning these things is, perhaps, the greatest challenge in making a yearbook.

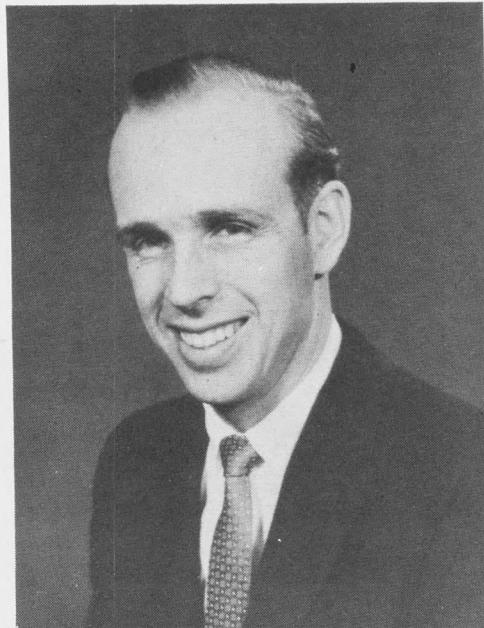
Nettie Brandt

As I share with you a few thoughts in this edition of the Blue and Gold, may I first of all congratulate our graduates and wish you every success in the future. It has given me much pleasure to work together with you. I am confident that the mutual understanding established in the past, time will not easily sever.

Our life is determined to a very great extent by the choices we make. You, students, have attended this school because it was your choice. The length of time you will continue in institutions of learning will be left largely up to you. Various vocations extend a beckoning hand and so you are faced with a decision. The company you keep will be yours by choice. Even the scriptures point out that there are two ways leading to the beyond while we, the individual, must choose which one our feet will tread. Be careful as you make each decision — so much depends on it.

I hope that the things learned at this school will serve as indicators pointing to that which is noblest and best. Remember that an Unfailing Guide is ever willing to assist us; to Him the outcome of each choice is as clear as the decisions that we face.

Mr. G. B. Doerksen



## Testing



The consensus of opinion among students is that examination are superfluous, outdated and nothing but an excruciating torture. How unfortunate that no one has come up with a suitable substitute! They say, "Just wait until school days are over, and examinations will be a thing of the past," But will they be forgotten, never to haunt us again?

When our school days are over, we will go out to face life. Will life have examinations which we must write? I am afraid it will. How privileged Solomon was to be given a blank check by which he could draw on God's boundless storehouse! Was that a blank, or was it the supreme examination of his life? Solomon's motives were tested. That Solomon passed his examination is confirmed by the fact that in addition to what he asked for, God gave him everything that he might have requested. How sad that in subsequent tests, Solomon did not choose as wisely as we would have expected. He ended his life serving other gods instead of the Lord his God.

We too shall be called upon to choose. It will not be a written examination, but the choices we shall make will effectively test our motives and desires. If our written tests will have prepared us to make wiser choices, then our school experience will have been well worth the effort.

Mr. T. C. Martens

## *Student Council*



### STUDENT COUNCIL

Left to right: Nettie Brandt; Ralph Unger, vice-president; Ruth Toews; Waldon Doerksen, president; Jake Friesen; Wayne Reimer; Eleanor Plett, secretary; Betty Barkman.



## *A Word From The President*

Each new school year brings new and different students to school; this year was no exception.

I would like to thank the student body for giving me the chance to serve as president. I would also like to thank the members of the student council for their co-operation and willingness to work.

To our teachers I would like to say, not only for patient instruction in school work, but also for instruction in other matters, thank you!

I have found this past school term very enjoyable. The friendliness of the students and teachers makes one feel at home. Even though our school is small, our spirits are big.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God . . ." This should challenge us all to do our best in our studies. Good luck, students!

— Waldon Doerksen



## *Valedictory Address*

Inspector Jasper,  
Teachers and Fellow Students,  
Parents,  
Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am deeply aware of the great honour that my fellow-graduates have placed upon me and it is my desire to bring forth my best and disclose our true feeling on our graduation day.

We, as graduates have reached another milestone in our life, the end of our last year at Blumenhof. This means farewell to our teachers and fellow students. To us it means a stepping-stone to further training and vocational careers. Because education is becoming increasingly important in our era, we challenge you, fellow students, to come back next year and to be satisfied with not less than the best.

The days when we sat in the classrooms learning our square roots, radicals, chemical formulas, and history will long be remembered. At the end of the week we have, no doubt, felt discouraged at times facing a big pile of homework, but we went back Monday morning to attack our work with a greater zeal. At times we have failed. Let us, however, not grieve over our failures but keep them in mind as guides to avoid the pitfalls of the future.

On our graduation we are literally closing one door and at the same moment opening another. We are opening the door to our future; we cannot tell what it will bring. We are opening it with the faith of the people who have been our guides up to now. We hope that we can be worthy of this faith in us and fulfill our duty by using our newly acquired knowledge and skill to make this world a better place to live in, not only by our own efforts but with divine guidance.

We wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our parents who have sacrificed a great deal of time and money for our education. We also thank our teachers who patiently guided us whenever the going was rough.

Arnold Doerksen

# our graduates



## ALVIN DOERKSEN

Alvin is a cheerful student who studies with determination. Does well in his studies although he missed school for a number of years. Teaches a Sunday School class at Caliento. Besides this, he looks after his family. His ambition is to become a teacher.



## NETTIE BRANDT

A blue-eyed, dark haired lass who loves nature. Her favorite subjects are Chemistry and Biology. She enjoys reading, singing and playing volleyball. Her motto: "A friend in need is a friend indeed."



### BETTY BARKMAN

This cute blonde haired girl seems to pal with everyone. Doesn't mind driving Dad's Pontiac. When it comes to having bright ideas for a debate we all look for Betty. Nobody can quite find out what she plans to do in the future.



### ARNOLD DOERKSEN

Arnold's laugh often echoes through the walls of Blumenhof High. Will frequently wander over to Ernie's desk when teacher doesn't seem to notice. For his spare time he tries his "pick" on any string instrument.



### EVELYN DOERKSEN

This bright eyed girl has a cheerful good morning for everyone. She has come after a few years absence but shows good marks in spite of that. Sometimes warns her little sister to be good at school. Chums with Eleanor. Hobbies are reading and sewing.



1. Yuletide message. 2. Moby Dick. 3. Love Birds. 4. Planning the next attack.  
5. What's up his sleeve? 6. All's well that ends well. 7. Grade 10 Algebra. 8. Skin  
Inspector. 9. Just in time. 10. Content. 11. Poor Bob. 12. Modelling hats. 13. Yes,  
Arnold. 14. I'm almost ready. 15. Surprise package. 16. Tomorrow's test.

# *Grade X*

## **PAULINE DOERKSEN**

Everyone envies her for her lovely long hair. When you see her eyeing you critically during classes, you'll know she's figuring out new essay material — beware! She is a very good singer.



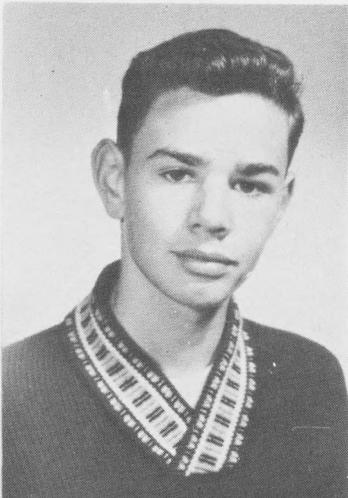
## **MARY BRANDT**

Mary is small, neat, and punctual. She greets us with a refreshed smile and a welcome, "How are you?" Likes to help others with schoolwork. Has been outside more than once already during recess this year.



## **ORVILLE DOERKSEN**

Orville is a tall handsome fellow with a good sense of humour. Enjoys the typing sessions on Tuesday mornings. His hobbies are, reading, joking, and teasing. Doesn't like writing essays.



## **RALPH UNGER**

Enjoys schoolwork and likes to discuss everything fully with the teacher. Spends his spare time playing the guitar. High hopes for winning the scholarship. Easy to get to know. The future will probably see him teaching the three R's.



## **ELEANOR PLETT**

A cheery smile, twinkling eyes, appealing laughter are all part of this young lady. Baffled with some sections in Science. Often associated with handling money. An enthusiastic fan in most sports. Never tires of skating or film nights.



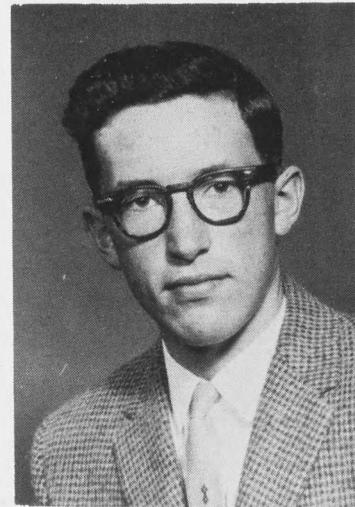
### **CLARICE PENNER**

A dark haired pretty girl who makes pretty good marks. If things aren't going her way on the volley-ball court, you'll hear her say, "Dann spiel ich nicht", but actually she is a good sport. She chums with Ruth.



### **LE ROY BARKMAN**

Has the privilege of seeing everybody's marks on the teacher's desk right in the front of him. He has proved boys can type well. His voice is being conserved efficiently. He is always friendly and easy to get along with.



### **WALDON DOERKSEN**

From all evidence Waldon is a good leader. Frequently he is seen conversing with Sara. Straight forward in voicing his opinion. Enjoys making puffed-wheat squares.



### **SARA DOERKSEN**

With her welcome laugh and her plain "Ya, I know", Sara will soon make you feel at home. She is well liked by all for her friendliness and winsome ways. She enjoys singing duets with her sister, Pauline.



### **EDNA PENNER**

This cheerful girl tends to brighten up the "blue Mondays". She is the industrious kind who can get her homework done. Chums with her classmate Mary.



### **JAKE FRIESEN**

This six-footer is often seen having a conference with his neighbours across the aisle. Good natured with a sheepish grin. Will frequently march into the classroom at 9:15. Comes to school on two wheels. Why has the teacher selected the front seat for him?



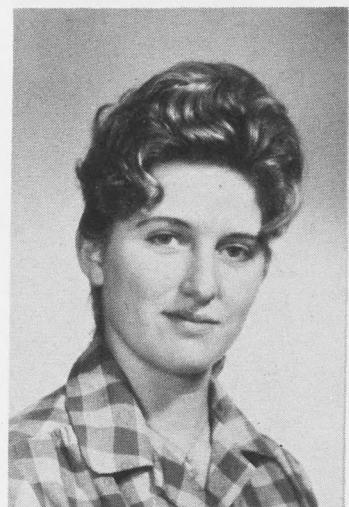
### LOTTIE PENNER

Lottie is a quiet, serious, girl who seems to pal with everyone. Doesn't mind driving dad's Meteor. When it comes to having bright ideas for a debate, we all look for Lottie. Nobody can quite find out what she plans to do in the future.



### RUTH TOEWS

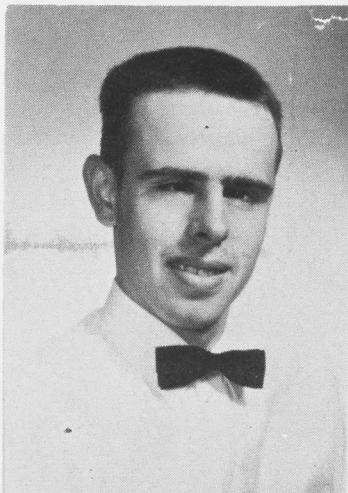
Occasionally "Dodges" to school. Talkative and friendly. She is usually seen with Clarice. Enjoys outdoor sports. One of her favourite ones is bowling. Typing is one of her favourite subjects, but Maths has her beat. She enjoys quarrelling with her sisters.



## *Special Students*

### MENNO DOERKSEN

Seems to be satisfied with his position at the front of the room. One of those few who attends school only in the afternoon. Interested in old cars, especially a 1930 Plymouth.



### CAROLYN REIMER

Carolyn is our cheerful janitor. She takes Mathematics and German, besides having a full-time job as housekeeper. She likes to sing and to talk, and is always full of energy.



# *Grade IX*

## **LINDA SCHINKEL**

Linda is good at making speeches and screaming. She assists her parents in the cafe, after school. She is good at volleyball but is usually not seen on the soccer field. Likes school.



## **VIOLA FAST**

Tall blonde girl who has a smile for everyone. She can be seen walking half a mile to school every morning. Though quiet she's not shy when you get to know her.



## **PETER PENNER**

Enjoys walking to school. Doesn't mind when the girls use expression "for Pete's sake". Enjoys all sports, and chums with Wayne. Has a friendly word for everyone. Not very talkative!



## **CURTIS LOEWEN**

Small boy with curly hair. Likes to get a good view of the late-comers. After four his hobby is washing floors which he enjoys very much. Quiet and has a good sense of humour.

## **MARCELLA CORNELISEN**

Marcella is a tall girl with brown hair and brown eyes. For her pastime she plays the accordion. Her favourite expression is "For Pete's Sake".



## **VIDA JANZEN**

This brown eyed "Miss" seems to enjoy arguing and fighting with Laurie. Talking is one of her talents. Collecting interesting pictures and reading story books are her hobbies.

## **DELBERT PLETT**

Delbert is a great friend of Clifford and often chats with him during school time. Thrives on reading history books and pestering girls. Why does he get so many good deals from Mr. Doerksen!

### **BOBBY BRANDT**

Robert is a friendly chap who enjoys soccer and his own jokes. Joined the rest of the Grade nines in October and supplied them with some extra competition and some brand new ideas. Hobbies are stamp collecting and laughing in schooltime. Spunky! Ambition? Undecided.

### **WAYNE REIMER**

In the beginning of the school year Wayne had to spoil his good looks with glasses. Has the fortune or misfortune of standing in soccor goal at recess. He thoroughly enjoys washing floors. Hails from Manitoba.

### **IRENE DOERKSEN**

Brown-eyed brunette who is always ready for fun. Chums with everyone and especially with Vida and Laurie. Heartily takes part in the Grade nine pranks. Prefers reading books to washing dishes. Genius is the best word to describe her. Her favourite song, "How the Cow Makes Milk".

### **LAURIE GIESBRECHT**

Laurie is a small girl with brown eyes. She is artistic and is often seen drawing cartoons on the blackboard. Voices her opinions freely. Doesn't like history but likes cheese sandwiches. She writes poems and stories in her spare time. Always missed when absent.

### **JAMES REIMER**

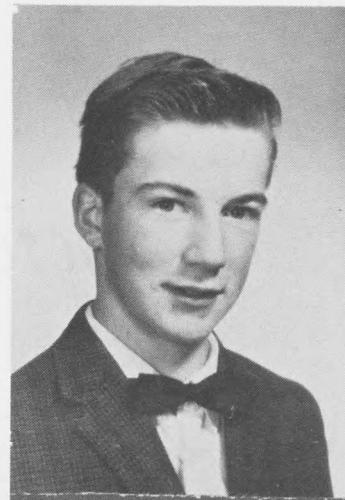
James is small of stature. Doesn't mind being teased. Comes up with really clever remarks, especially when in Bob's company. Prefers boys to girls.

### **CLIFFORD FRIESEN**

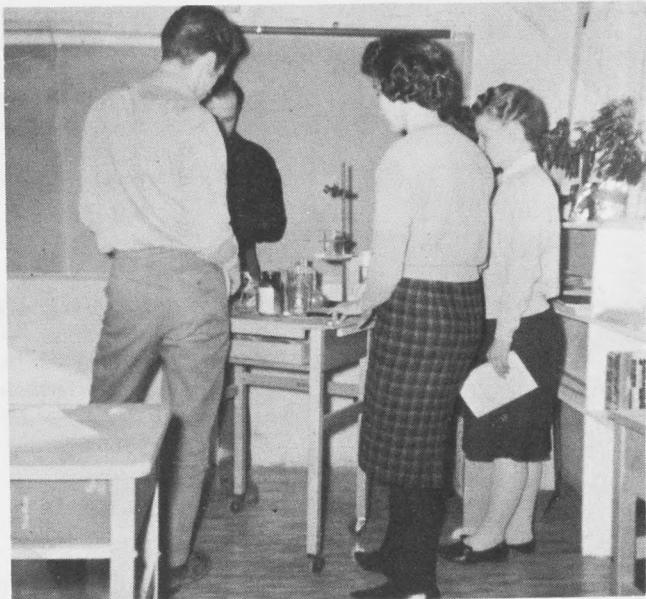
Little boy with a big mouth. Likes to express himself in Low German. Enjoys side tracking in History period, and making the grade nine girls screech. Chums with Delbert.

### **ANNIE SCHINKEL**

Annie is a friendly girl with dark hair and brown eyes. She enjoys reading but does not like to serve in the cafe. Chums with everyone. Is a famous giggler!



# *Science*



## *Experiments*

We're going to do an experiment today. That's great! What was it supposed to prove? It was something about oxygen, I think. It "sort of" seems to me that the experiment was going to demonstrate that oxygen livens up people.

Well, anyway, here comes our teacher with the squeaky-wheeled lab table. It is decorated with a gorgeous array of shiny beakers, a jet-black ring stand and half a dozen sparkling test tubes. A number of bottles with mysterious chemical formulas on their labels are displayed on the teacher's desk, and five "scientifically minded" Grade Elevens are gathered around it. The restless Grade Ten Class completes the apparatus.

Here's how we do it. Setting up the apparatus "as in diagram" consists of the Grade Ten boys moving their desks into a group near the back of the room. The girls pal up by two's in order to "finish their homework". A generous amount of whispering is mixed with a considerable quantity of laughter, and a definite number of winks are exchanged between the Grade Ten and Grade Eleven boys. As the finishing touch, a "wee tiny size" paper rocket comes sailing over the oxygen factory.

What have we observed as the result of our experiment? Well, for one, the Grade Tens seem to be in a good mood. The Grade Elevens as well seem to have enjoyed themselves, and even the teacher is in good spirits, in spite of it all. The only conclusion I can come to is that it's great fun to do experiments.

Grade Eleven

## A Screaming Game of Tennis

When the teacher says we are dismissed there is a wild screaming and gigglings as the girls quarrel for the tennis bats. As the dust and wild melee is settled the victorious girls let go another victory howl and wait for the others to put up the tennis table. The victorious girls quickly choose their partners and side of the table. The boys on the other hand know they had better get outside if they want to save their eardrums. As the game of tennis proceeds, the screaming and laughing start roaring which almost makes the roof fall down. A heart-piercing scream is heard by all the soccer players. The unaware people's hair stand on end and their eyes start to roll in big circles in fright. Another great play is made and the group of girls join in to give a spine-tingling scream. The people who are watching and whose eardrums aren't used to such high-pitched screams run out white-faced and the legs and rest of the body is covered with goose pimples. If the boys ever get an occasional game they are very happy and lucky. When they get it which is barely twice a month, the poor, lonely, miserable, girls, as they would call themselves, sit around, talk, play crokinole, and let go an occasional scream or howl. The eardrums at Blumenhof really have been hardened after these daily episodes.

Grade Nine

## Just Before A Test

Today everyone is tense! Why? We are supposed to write a test and seemingly no one has studied. Seeking for last minute information, the students are rambling excitedly.

"How long did you study last night, Lottie?" Eleanor is hoping that she isn't the only one who hasn't reviewed her geography.

"Only for one hour!" she replies quickly and turns to Ruth who is awaiting an answer for still another question.

Extreme hyperbole is used as the girls discuss how hard they studied last night. Some memorized the whole chapter while others even memorized it backwards.

Mary's thoughts are already in the cotton fields in southern United States as she desperately is trying to memorize all the facts about cotton that she might be required to know. She only looks up when she hears Eleanor's sneering remark: "I bet she thinks she'll have a Hundred"!

Mary's only response is "Oh yes!" and she goes right on studying.

To get some information from Ralph is the boys' only thought now. He has his eyes on the book and seemingly can't afford to waste one second, for he must quickly learn some more.

"Well, Ralph, do you know everything?" Waldon would like to know.

Being quite overwhelmed at having received so much attention already, he answers emphatically, "Naturally, don't you?" He cannot wait for an answer for his notebook just disappeared. As he looks up, he sees a group of boys already turning its pages frantically. He must rescue it!

To the students' relief Mr. Doerksen is not quite prepared either for he is still working at the duplicator, thus giving them more time to study. But now he calls "Schooltime", and the test begins!

Grade Ten

# *Sports Committee*



Left to right: Lawren Giesbrecht, Jake Friesen, convener, Peter Penner

## **SOCIAL REPORT**

We started off our social activities this year with a getting acquainted wiener roast. The evening turned out to be a great success with some singing, games and a few skits. A small fire in one of the cars added to the excitement of the evening.

With December came a Christmas social. The decorations, nuts, candies, and carols seemed to give everyone the Christmas spirit.

One cold Friday afternoon we decided to do some skating at Brandt's pit. Everyone enjoyed the cool break even though there were a few spills.

On February 14th we had a Valentine's skating party at the Moray School. The girls brought Valentine cookies and Mr. Doerksen made a big pot of hot chocolate. In spite of the very cold weather we felt warm after the active evening.

The student council decided to rent a film for an evening, to raise some money for a few things the school needed. We saw the film "Stanley and Livingstone." We were treated with a few musical numbers and a large turnout.

These and other activities made our school year a more enjoyable one. Getting away from the old grind, and having a time for a few laughs and fun gave everyone renewed ambition to attack the schoolwork.

Ruth Toews

## **SPORTS REPORT**

For most pupils the sports activities during recess are the most enjoyable exercises in school.

In fall the boys played football during recess while the girls usually played volley-ball. A new, larger volley-ball court, constructed in September, has provided many hours of enjoyment while the football field was muddy.

In winter most of us played soccer during recess. Some pupils, however, enjoyed ping-pong more.

In spring we started off by playing volley-ball since the ground was rather soggy.

Although we do not have a complete line of sports equipment and facilities at school, the sports activities during recess help to brighten our work-dulled minds.

Jake Friesen

## *Social Committee*



Left to right: Evelyn Doerksen, Ruth Toews, convener, Orville Doerksen

## *I. S. C. F. Committee*



Left to right: Le Roy Barkman, Betty Barkman, Nettie Brandt, convener

Eck ha enne olli Plymouth Koa  
Gimoakt em neagentiandartigst Joa,  
Dee wort dann gekoft en Kansas nohea,  
Gegaeft hundetfiewendartig doafea.  
Dee haft enn Kansas uck fael gefoari  
Enn aul de heeti driagi Joari.  
Dann kaum dee schliesslich no Kanada,  
Woa wie dee noch lang gefoari ha.

Em Winta auni sassifeftig,  
Rand see no Hochschol noch gaunz leftig  
Met Broda Gerry uck noch Audri,  
Daut jemaund froag: Waut, Indians waundri ?



### *Mien Olla Plymouth*

Dann wort dee Droschki schwin reed gemoakt,  
ENN ons Ford tractor doa fea gehoakt,  
ENN schnorich, see brommd dann uck meist foats  
los —

Lud goni deed daut nich een baetki blos.

Daut Dack doa bowe gink aul to Brocke,  
So wort ea Riggi gaunz nie betrocke.  
Dee Motor wia ennalich uck deag krank,  
Een Schupskaunki wia aul nich mea gaunz lang.

Wie wulle dem Motor doch fixi loti,  
Daut dee gescheit wud rani engimoti;  
Nom Koaridockto foa see met igni Krauft,  
Wann daut uck eene groti Ruackwolk gauf.

Dann kaum see lota gisunda nohus,  
ENN haft nu enni Koarisched ea tus;  
See haft ea Deenst fresh opginommi,  
ENN deit nu wada no Hochschol kommi.

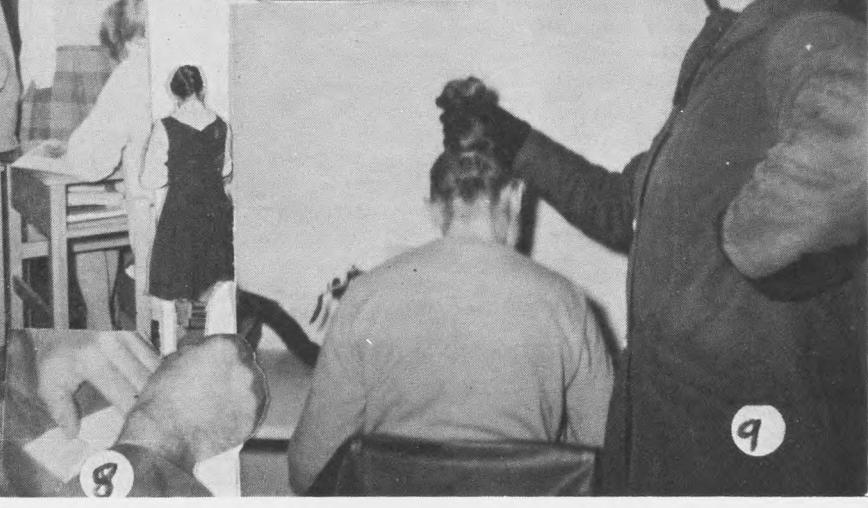
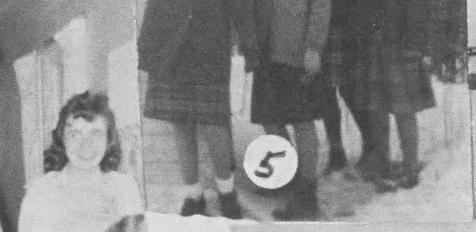
Menno Doerksen

Schliesslich trubeld dee olli Droschki,  
Daut wie dee fiadi hinga'n Boschki,  
Hia haft see dann so lang gestoni  
Bot sasz Joa sent febie gegoni.

Dann latzti Somma wull wie mohl doch  
Dem ollen fosiacki to foari noch,  
Dann wiari doa oba fael Biei benni,  
So deed wie doa Ruack enn Zeinoges nenni.

Dee Biei enn eari groti Not,  
Gingi dann uck bolt meist aula dot.  
Eent von dee Kraete bruckt noch ea giwea  
ENN beet mie dann noch em Oam doafea.





1. Daydreaming. 2. Her chief delight. 3. Irene!!! 4. What's the joke? 5. Mass production. 6. Effects of Ether? 7. Chasing boys. 8. Gotcha. 9. Giddap. 10. That's it, Alvin!

# *Reminiscences...*



Left to right: Martha Penner, Donald Toews, Marjorie Unger, Carl Doerksen, Helen Barkman, Norman Plett

1962

Hi students. It is indeed encouraging to know that you have decided to publish another edition of the Blue and Gold. The yearbook helps to transmit school activities to the people of the community. The name "Blumenhof High" will bring back many memories to the ex-students, I am sure. I hope that most of these memories are fond ones.

I was asked to enumerate some of the highlights of the last school year. These would include events such as moving the high school to its present location, the Christmas social, a field trip, certain sports activities, and last but not least, graduation.

Certainly most students look back on last year as a success for the reason that all but a few of the June papers were passed. This is something of which to be proud. I sincerely hope that this year the high standards will be maintained as you continually strive for success. In closing, I would like to wish all present and future students the best of luck in the vocational fields of their choice.

Carl Doerksen

## 1961

Once more that awful time for the June exams with the stiff departmental papers had rolled around. The Grade XI class had had its laughs and cries over those papers.

"What did you write for number 26 on that Biology exam?"

"Which topic did you write on in Composition?"

"Did you get that last question in Macbeth?" These questions filled the corridors for a while. Only one of us seemed glum. "Who was the author of Macbeth?" someone wise-cracked to him. "I don't know," he sulked, "I never met him."

The next day was last examination. All of us were dreading it. Finally the time came for us to sit down and accept our fate. The exam, of course, was Mathematics. The day was extraordinarily hot, and there was no breeze. Windows were pushed wide open, for a little bit of fresh air, but seemingly to no avail. A few fans in the classroom were howling loudly enough to drive anyone batty under the strain. It was so hot and clammy, clothes clung to bodies. The room was crowded because so many correspondence students came to write their exams in school.

Outside tractors were humming in the fields, birds were flitting about as free as the air, a cat sauntered across the road in quest of mice. Busy bees paused at sight of the open window and settled on the blooming flowers on the window sills. A sprinkler was cooling the flowers in the garden near the school. Robins chirped about under the spray, and flew off refreshed. The whirr of a hand-powered lawn mower could be heard. A hoe was scraping its way through the rows of vegetables. Across the road, chickens squawked noisily. Listen! A meadow lark trills on top of that fence post near the gate. See it? Oh, how longingly we gazed at the free world outside.

Suddenly there was a disturbance in the room. One of the Grade XI's had suffered long enough. But no, he never suffered at all. This was his favourite subject! The rest of us glared at him enviously, and determined to get done with our papers in a hurry. After another hour or so, there was suddenly a great commotion of papers hastily swept together and scanned over, pencils thrown down on desks, one person signed his name with a flourish, and another made a final i dot with a loud bang, and off we went. Some of us were pretty gloomy, but after a discussion in the hall, our chins lifted and optimistically we said, "Maybe we'll do better in August. June was never made for writing examinations."

Della Loewen



## 1960

Many fond memories return to my mind as I turn my thoughts back to the school term of '59-'60 at good old Blumenhof High. First of all there was opening day, August 27, 9 a.m. The bell rang out once more after having had two months vacation welcoming the students back to their studies. From the east and from the west, from the home and from the farm students were drawn together at Blumenhof by a great force, a common purpose to further their education. "Some" students came the first day, some the first month and some the first day of the new year but finally we were all there, one big happy family. United we were there in our efforts to conquer new fields, to master the subjects: German, history, math, science, and literature. But after the periods of difficult, rough, tough mental strain came the break with relaxation out in the fresh air on the soccer field or on the ball diamond.

Adding my personal testimony, I feel that these times out on the play ground were of great value to me, not only in relieving mental fatigue and developing and strengthening friendships but also in challenging me with the realization that the juniors were looking up to me as a senior. What kind of an example was I? What was the impression I left of my Saviour and Lord? Was Christ's indwelling presence evident in my life? Did my life show that Christ was the answer even for their every need? These were searching questions and I realize that in many cases I fell short but I am thankful that God's holy hand of mercy is still extended today to wretched sinners who come to Him in repentance through Christ.

One of the highlights of the year was a visit to Iberville Colony, a Hutterite Colony on the Assiniboine River north-west of Headingley. The day was cold and blustery and even though our hopes of doing some fishing were disappointed we spent a worthwhile day together. Coming onto the yard of the colony close to noon we were met by four big hungry greyhounds. To our relief they were more interested in a cat that had challenged their dignity than in us. We were made to feel welcome and shown into the dining hall for one of their

Continued on page 26

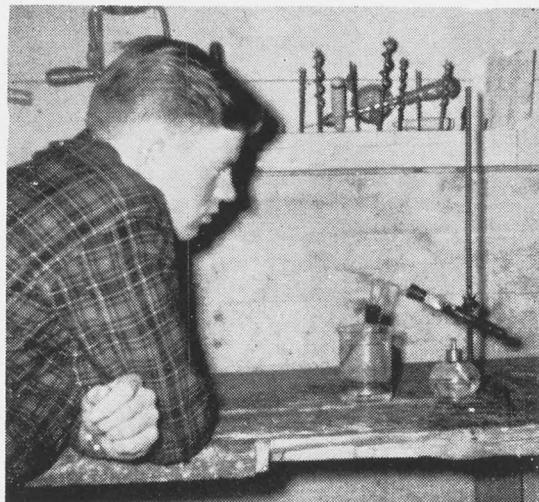
meals of ham, eggs, potatoes and soup. In the afternoon a couple of hospitable Hutterite boys in their black dress proudly showed us around the farm: their big equipped barns, their goose hatchery, their machinery and even welcomed us into their private homes. When it was time to leave they extended a warm invitation to come again.

As I look back I am confident that this year proved to each one of us, as Tennyson puts it in *Ulysses* that

All experience is an arch wherethro'  
Gleams that untravell'd world whose margin fades  
For ever and for ever when I move.

As we go forward into this "untravelled world" may we fully commit our lives to the Lord with the faith of the Psalmist that "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in Thy presence is fullness of joy: at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore".

Ben Thiessen



## 1959

The following is a recipe of a favorite cake. Follow directions closely for best results.

To Irene Janzen's friendliness and resourcefulness add one cup of Melvin's wisdom and seriousness, and Emmeline's ability and enthusiasm. Stir in gently the warm smile and thoroughness of Agnes, the levelheadedness and popularity of Munroe. Cream this with Abie's spice and spirit.

Mix in the quietness of Anne, the thoughtfulness of John and the liveliness of Irene Joyce. To this mixture add Valida's chatter, Ronnie's wit and Gordon's sincerity.

Season with Jim's optimism, Della's calmness, Wanda's laughter and Luana's look of innocence.

Fold in carefully the patience and longsuffering of Mr. Dueck.

Bake over the red hot flame of Mariana's personality.

This is the cake of Blumenhof High, '59. Better ingredients you'll never see.

Emmeline Plett



## 1958

What in particular do we remember about the school year 1957-1958? In the first place, this was the year that Blumenhof High School had twenty-four students, sixteen of them being graduates. Never before, and never after has this school had such a large Grade Eleven class. Where are you young people who should be in high school?

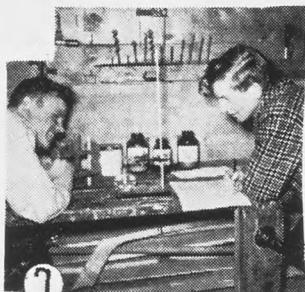
Another reason why we remember this year is the fact that there were four students from Landmark in our midst. One student came all the way from Washow Bay. The rest of us were "Ridge-wooders", "Twin Creekers", "Blumenorters", and, of course "Blumenhofers". It is good to get together from different districts, for it helps us to get new ideas, gain more friends, and remove some of the rough edges that might ruin our characters.

Then, too, there are certain days of this school year that linger in our memories. There was the day that Mr. Dueck gave us a very serious lecture on speaking Low German on campus. English must be a difficult language, for after five years it is still hard to speak. Moreover, there was the bitter cold day we planned to go tobogganing and tried to find Suicide Hill. We found some kind of suicide hill alright. In contrast, we are reminded of a lovely spring day we spent in Kenora. Finally, another important day arrived. On the 11th of June Mr. Dueck presented the graduates with the Blumenhof High School diplomas. This was not the end, however. Well do I remember, Friday, July 25th, the day we received our transcripts. Then were revealed to us the consequences of the year 1957-58.

Myrtle Doerksen



7



7

## 1957

Since I have been approached to write (I don't know what to call it), something that is supposed to represent the 1956-1957 graduates, I must say first of all, that I feel rather unworthy to do this, in comparison to my fellow graduate, Henry Koop, who is my senior by a certain number of years, and second, that I do feel honoured in spite of the fact that Henry was our valedictorian.

As the preceding paragraph has already let "the cat out of the bag", in conjunction with the title, I shall proceed directly with the reminiscing. I shall endeavour to be quite impartial.

During the '56-'57 school term at Blumenhof, there was a total enrolment of 96 students, only 16 of those attended the High School Department, headed by the principal Mr. B. B. Dueck. This brings us to room two, which was taught by Mr. J. Kornelson. In room one, Miss S. Friesen had her little ups and downs, even after her six years of teaching experience.

These reminiscings bring to mind many experiences, events, and periods, good as well as bad, which have stuck with me these seven years since I left Blumenhof High.

I distinctly remember the time when Henry offered me some goat's milk (which my taste buds found to be good) which I drank with not an excess amount of relish. This is rather personal, but remember, I'm reminiscing.

I have a sort of overall happy feeling to think of the way our school friends thought of us at that time, by voting us into the different committees. Henry had the responsibility of acting as the photographer for the Yearbook Committee, helping out the Disciplinary Committee, besides being the valedictorian at the graduation, while my humble self was employed as vice-president of the Student Council, the Circulation Manager of the active Yearbook Committee, and as a member of the Literary Committee. The meetings held by the mentioned committees were adventures that seem everlasting memories now.

Other recollections crowd my mind. I cannot help but think that poor Henry was missed so much on the material called frozen water. My position as left wing on the school team will also never be forgotten. In soccer, Henry, however, was the best net-tender around, which he did very amiably for his size.

I could go on and on. Let it suffice to say that I really did enjoy my last year at that noble institution.

Before I close, let me congratulate all the graduates of 1962-1963. May you enjoy health and happiness in abundance in future years.

Joseph G. Plett

## 1956

Since the year 1955-56, the first year of Blumenhof High, I've had much reason to look back; to ponder; what has that year really contributed to my life? It certainly has been an important link in the chain of life, without which the chain would have been incomplete. That year certainly helped to prepare for future battles.

We received the seed — to what fruit has this seed grown? Before us the fields of the future now stretch, empty and receptive. What seed are we throwing out to blossom tomorrow?

Let nothing leave our hands but that which is edifying, that which is truly good, so that our harvesting may be one of beauty.

May we be worthy of the seed others have sacrificed to sow. Let us rid ourselves of all that is unworthy, all that is selfish, all that is dishonest, all fault-finding and all blame, then, only to sow that which will yield a bounding harvest of loveliness; fruit unto life everlasting.

Why not do our personal part now before we make our contribution to life?

Graduates, the task before us is tremendous, but the promise "as thy days so shall thy strength be" is equally powerful. Shall we claim this promise as we endeavour to work in our Master's vineyard.

Helena Braun



Congratulations, graduates of '63! I have no doubt that in years to come you will cherish the memories of the Blumenhof family as much as I do.

I hope you realize that your high school education has been unique. Where else could you have had the same involvement in social life with the same absence of hindrance to study? Where else could your education have been a more person-to-person experience with the same opportunities for developing your own initiative? Where else would your intellectual training have been integrated with your ideological background with the same freedom of thought? Let us remember that education is not just studying, teaching is not just tutoring, and that being is not just knowing.

Glenn Klassen



## Former Teachers

Dear Blumenhof High,

When Nettie, your friendly Yearbook Committee representative, honoured me by inviting me to contribute to your 1963 "Blue and Gold", her letter started a train of pleasant Blumenhof memories — of happy, busy days spent within the classroom, of the 1955 winter of "Big Snow" with its trailer camp and its Model A Ford, of anxious examination days, of soccer, football, and softball, of wiener roasts and sing-songs, of alumni meetings, of real companionship and sincere friendship.

Where are all the staunch Blumenhof High "pillars" of yesteryear? I'll tell you where they are: they're scattered near and far, some still single, some married with families of their own, some in far-off countries in various occupations and professions, but all carrying on the torch of life and making a worthwhile contribution to humanity. That is as it should be.

The present staff and student body I'd urge and encourage to keep Blumenhof school spirit high — study for God and success and play to win. I know you will not fail to produce the best.

Mrs. Dueck and the family join me in sending you best wishes.

Cheerio,

Ben B. Dueck

P.S. Oldtimers, do you remember the Library in Blumenhof?



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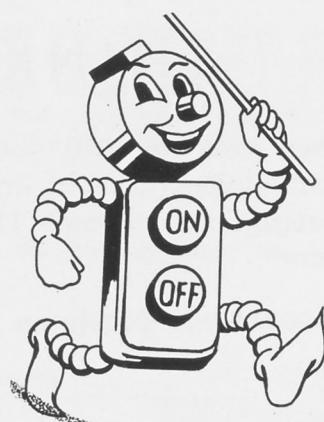
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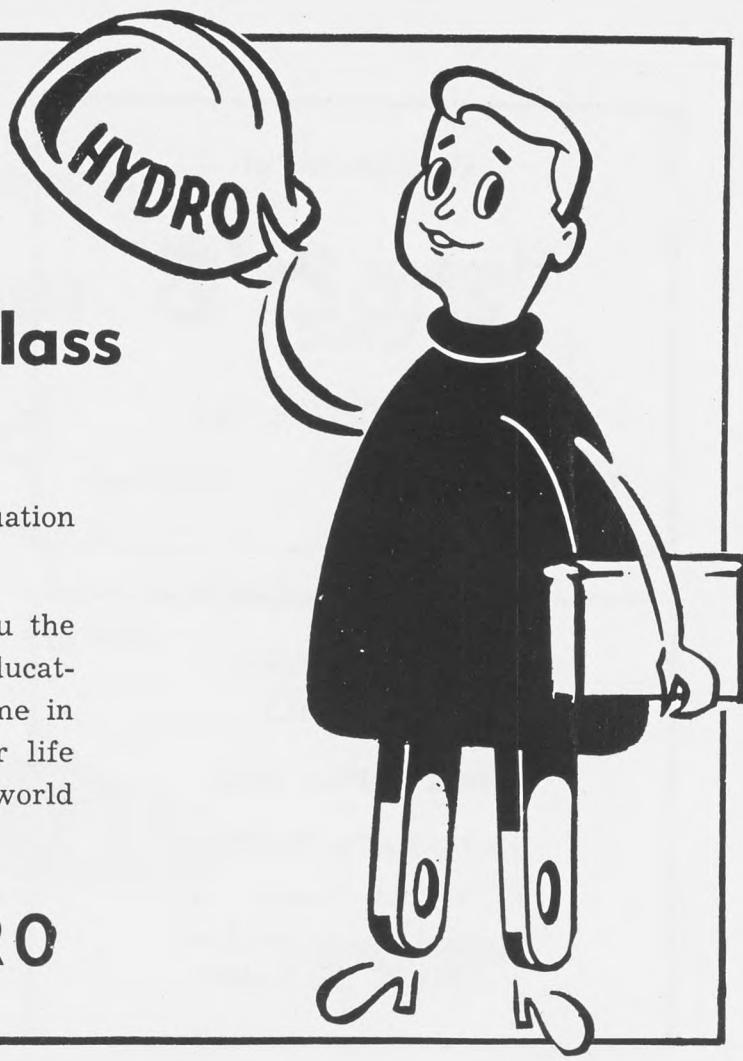
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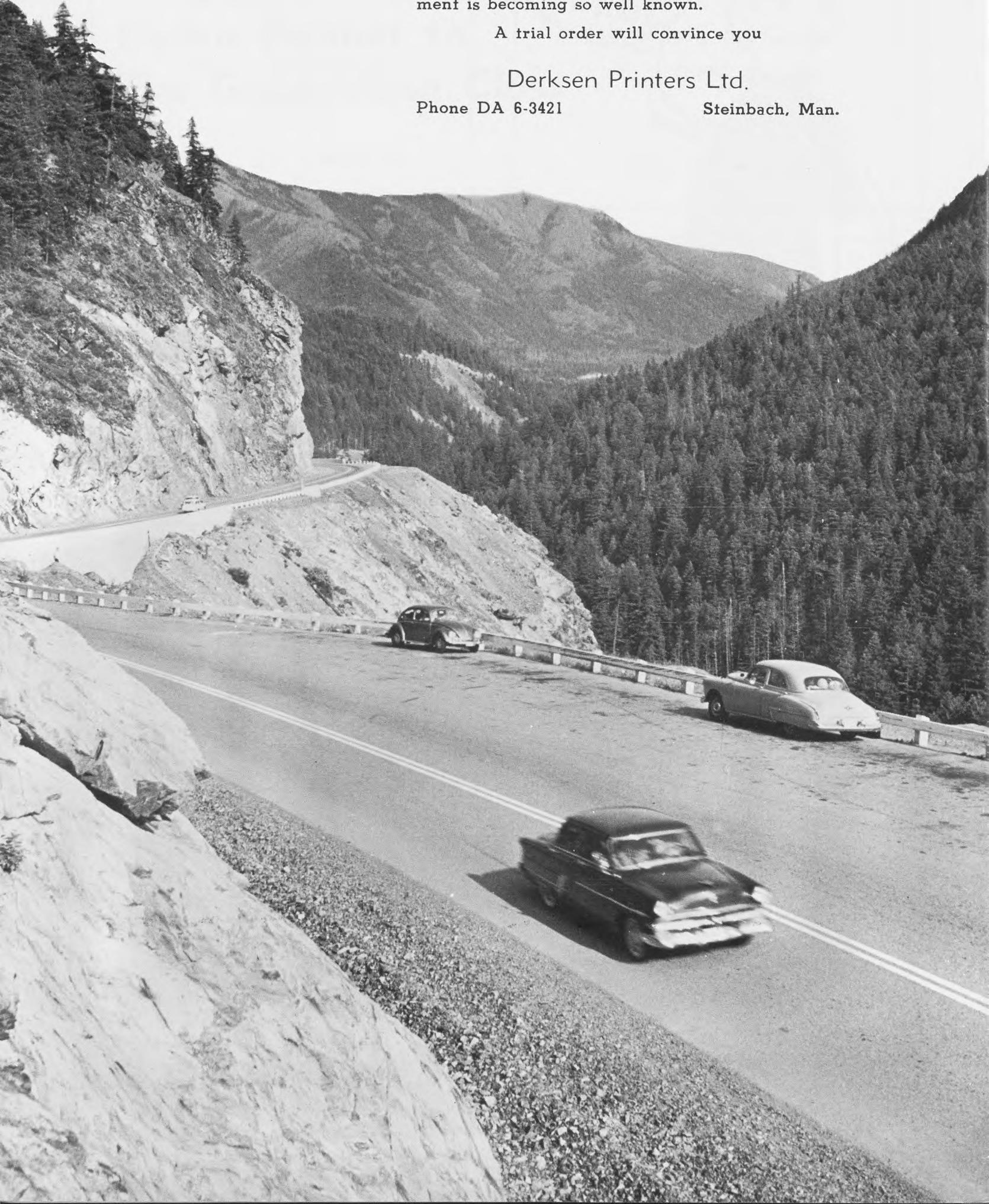
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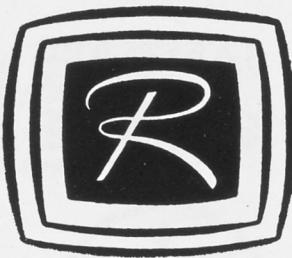
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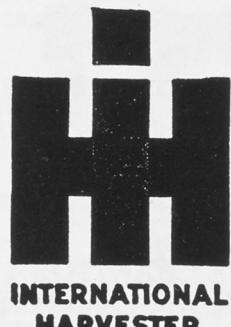
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